

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Annual Tribute to 9-11's Fallen Heroes Marks Ninth Year of Remembrance

Salisbury, NC – September 8, 2010_Chief Bob Parnell of the Salisbury Fire Department, announced today that local fire, rescue, emergency and law enforcement personnel will pay homage to their fallen brothers and sisters during a 9-11 Memorial Ceremony, to take place on Saturday, September 11. The community is cordially invited to attend the morning service which marks the ninth anniversary of the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Washington, DC. The service will be held at the Salisbury-Rowan Firefighters' Memorial, located adjacent to Chestnut Hill Cemetery, 1400 South Main Street.

Chief Parnell has kindly requested that attendees assemble at the Firefighter's Memorial by 9:20 am; a designated area will be provided for wheelchair accessibility. At approximately 9:30 am, Bagpiper Josh Bailey will offer a piper's selection for those assembled. Honor guards from the Salisbury Police and the Rowan County Sheriff's Departments will follow and commence with the *Presentation of Colors*. In the spirit of solidarity, as exhibited by emergency service workers during the events of September 11, the Rowan County Fire and Rescue Honor Guard will accept and subsequently raise the American flag. Bailey will offer a second musical selection, followed by the *Advancement of Wreath* by Rowan County Emergency Services workers.

Welcome remarks will be offered by Salisbury Police Chief Rory Collins with the invocation delivered by Reverend Harvey Rice, Chaplain for the Salisbury Police Department. Salisbury Mayor Susan Kluttz and Rowan County Commission Chairman Carl Ford will also provide remarks during the service. Chief Parnell shares that a special recognition ceremony will offer remembrance for fire and rescue personnel who have passed away during the last year. Those to be remembered during the service are:

Chief Marvin Boger, Union Fire Department
Chief Fred Jordan, Enochville Fire and Rescue Department
Chief Jackie Doby, Gold Hill Fire Department
Bill Pless, Rowan County Rescue Squad
James Yost, Rockwell City Fire Department
Dolan Doby, Salisbury Fire Department

The Ringing of the Bell service will include the ceremonial chiming of the bell five times, in three distinct sets, signifying the "last return home." A moment of silence will follow

and will be observed for precisely one minute, marking the collapse of the first World Trade Center tower. The *Placement of the Wreath* will follow with Bailey providing a traditional piper's rendition of Amazing Grace. Chaplain Charles Miller of the Rowan County Fire & Rescue Association will offer a closing prayer and the service will be dismissed by Chief Collins.

Mayor Susan Kluttz, speaking on behalf of the Salisbury City Council shares, "By gathering as a community of fellowship on September 11, we are able to honor and remember the countless acts of selflessness and heroism exhibited by the brave men and women who responded that fateful day. Through their acts of quiet valor and dedication to others, we are able to witness this same spirit today in the daily services provided by our local fire, police, rescue, and emergency medical service workers. Their sincere devotion, fortitude, and heartfelt compassion offer a constant testimony to the memory of those individuals who perished, to the strength of the American people, and to the unwavering resilience of our nation's spirit. I encourage our citizens and all emergency service personnel to attend this memorial service on September 11, as we uplift the memory of those who offered the supreme sacrifice, so that others could be saved."

Chief Parnell shares that through a joint resolution approved December 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89), Congress authorized and requested former President George W. Bush to designate September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day." The proclamation followed in 2002. Flags are to be flown at half staff in observance of the day; American flags that are posted at a stationary position are to be draped with a black sash or a black ribbon in observance. Citizens are encouraged to attend appropriate ceremonies, activities, and remembrance services to pay tribute to our nation's fallen heroes. In addition, citizens are requested to display flags at their homes at half mast and observe a moment of silence to honor those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Citizens are advised that beginning at 9 am, a portion of South Main Street will be blocked to traffic. The street is scheduled to reopen by approximately 10:15 am. Citizen parking for service attendees will be available on streets adjacent to the Salisbury-Rowan Firefighters' Memorial and within the Chestnut Hill Cemetery. For more information regarding the 9-11 Memorial Service, please contact the Salisbury Fire Department at 704-638-4451 and speak with Battalion Chief Chris Kepley.

The City of Salisbury is an equal opportunity employer with over 180 different job classifications and more than 400 full-time positions. For more information regarding the City of Salisbury and its services and departments, please visit us on the web at www.salisburync.gov. To receive updates regarding local initiatives, meetings, programs, and events, please join the City of Salisbury's Facebook users group at www.salisburync.gov/facebook or follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CitySalisburyNC>.

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